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Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Summary record of the 12th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 30 June 2016, at 3 p.m.

Chair: Mr. Rivero Rosario (Vice-Chair) ..... (Cuba)
later: Mr. Ramírez Carreño (Chair) ..... (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)

Contents

Adoption of the agenda

Question of French Polynesia

Question of sending visiting and special missions to Territories

Organization of work

Closure of the session

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In the absence of Mr. Ramirez Carreño (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela), Mr. Rivero Rosario (Cuba), Vice-Chair, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.35 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

1. *The agenda was adopted.*

Question of French Polynesia (A/AC.109/2016/7; A/AC.109/2016/L.24)

Draft resolution A/AC.109/2016/L.24

2. **The Chair** recalled that at its 11th meeting the Committee had agreed to defer action on draft resolution A/AC.109/2016/L.24 in order to allow adequate time for consultations to be concluded. Those consultations had resulted in the consensus text before the Committee.

3. *Draft resolution A/AC.109/2016/L.24 was adopted.*

Question of sending visiting and special missions to Territories (A/AC.109/2016/L.5/Rev.2)

Draft resolution A/AC.109/2016/L.5/Rev.2

4. *Draft resolution A/AC.109/2016/L.5/Rev.2 was adopted.*

Organization of work

5. **The Chair** suggested that the Committee should authorize the Rapporteur to prepare the report of the Special Committee to the seventy-first session of the General Assembly. In accordance with established practice, the Committee should authorize the Rapporteur to submit the report directly to the Assembly.

6. *It was so decided.*

7. *Mr. Ramirez Carreño (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) took the Chair.*

Closure of the session

8. **The Chair**, reviewing the work accomplished by the Committee during the 2016 session, said that valuable information had emerged in the course of the recent Pacific Regional Seminar, not least because of the participation also of United Nations specialized agencies, whose expertise could do much to further decolonization. The success of the annual International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, which had included exhibitions, cultural events and academic discussions, had demonstrated the international interest in decolonization, despite the fact that the subject was unfortunately not at the moment a priority of the United Nations as a whole. There had been frank, informative discussions in the Committee on often contentious issues and all those who could make a constructive contribution had been heard. Yet the need to promote consensus and a calm, more effective approach had become apparent in view of the disruptive and undiplomatic behaviour of an observer delegation during the consideration of the question of Western Sahara. On the other hand, the Committee had made a wise decision to begin adopting separate resolutions on the small Territories in the Caribbean, the Pacific and the Atlantic, allowing it to deal properly with specific aspects of the individual Territories. Ways would have to be found to help those which had specifically requested assistance during the session. All administering Powers, as well, had been urged to become constructively involved in the Committee's work in order to fulfil their responsibility to hasten the self-determination of all the remaining dependent Territories. After the customary expression of thanks to the Committee members and Secretariat staff, he declared the session closed.

The meeting rose at 4.05 p.m.